

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 12, 2022 1:47 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to Administrative Rule R657-28?**

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Neither agree nor disagree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

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Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

I support the division to raise the fees. I recommend the division to increase the Dedicated Hunter permit to 300\$ and only 1 Buck harvest in the 3 year program.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

I understand that fee increases are necessary. We are all feeling the crunch of inflation, high prices and an uncertain economy moving forward. It does seem like a kick the shorts to stick it to the residents of Utah with an increase to fees during these times.

I think you should increase the youth fees. Eventually this will be needed and bigger jumps are harder to swallow. Add 3 dollars to the youth fees.

In the end, if this is what is necessary, I support it but I hope that the division is being honest in their needs to facilitate their purpose.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

I am about to become a senior, but I still think the senior discount does little to affect participation, except for those that are economically challenged. I suggest either raising the senior age to 67 or adding 20% to these cost rather than 10% (it wasn't clear in this presentation what was considered). I suggest you have an economic level (e.g., less than twice poverty less) where you can get reduced (free) senior license. I also think there should be a reduced cost married couple license option (maybe even a family license; couple plus four under 18) to increase female participation. It would also increase revenue if they have to be bought at the same time as my wife waits until she decides to hunt where I never let my license expire.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

Turkey tags are already overpriced. More hunters=more revenue so where has that gone? There was an increase in poaching fines which should have increased revenue. The hunting draw should not cost as much as it does to apply for each hunt, and that money could be better managed, it simply shouldn't cost as much as it does to manage a digital database that has been developed. Perhaps if price hikes are necessary, consider a progressive application fee charge which starts out high for the first year and goes down with the more points accumulated.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 12, 2022 8:40 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to Administrative Rule R657-28?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommended changes?**

We need to keep fees for everybody cAn enjoy the great outdoors and with all this inflation has to end people are already struggling let's not make them struggle anymore

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 12, 2022 8:58 pm

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments  
about these proposed fees?**

Raise non resident fees more than the 10%-12% and raise the application  
fee to \$15.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

I can understand some minor fee increases over the years but I strongly disagree that residents increase percentage should be the same as non-resident hunters. There already isn't enough opportunity to hunt in Utah and unfortunately the only reason for this fee increase is to 'keep up' with what the DWR is already doing rather than do anything new to try and improve opportunity and quality of hunting and fishing in Utah. You are going to double the hour buyout for dedicated Hunter hours from \$20 to \$40 dollars per hour? Where is the 10% increase on that one? How can you do that when hunters just got into the program and are in for three years? Really disappointing

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 13, 2022 6:21 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

This is an absolute joke. Raising the cost of tags and licenses by around 15% is ridiculous. I rely on hunting to provide the food my family needs and now the DWR is telling me I have to pay more for the same animals that I have hunted for years. The DWR has completely lost sight of helping people access the outdoors and is only concerned about padding the pockets of their higher ups.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to Administrative Rule R657-28?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?** I understand the need for fee increase but ever small increase is taking Dads and family away from being able to take their kids and family's out to appreciate Utah hunting and fishing. You might think 5 dollars here and 30 dollars here is justifiable but it hurts the average joe when fishing and hunting is all that is left. Please find other means to generate the money needed and don't nickel and dime Utah residents. I Oppose Increases across the board on EVERY species. Have the Non Residents pay a larger increased fee's just like all other western states have gone to.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

I strongly disagree with this price increase! The current prices are already much higher than many of the surrounding states like Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, etc. for resident permits and licenses. \$40 for a turkey?? What are we doing differently/how does our environmental/conservation situation differ from other states that requires us to be many times between 1.5-3x the price for permits? Our once in a lifetime prices are significantly higher too, like 2x+ as expensive. I would love to get a response and answers to why we are so much higher and are still proposing price increases.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

So even after this increase the last two years"March 2020 to February 2021 saw a 28% increase in total license sales from the previous year. 222,124 combination licenses, which allow hunting and fishing were sold, up from 183,358 from last year. 417,883 fishing licenses were sold, an increase of more than 100,000 licenses from the year before. 68,265 hunting licenses were sold, up from the previous year's 50,551 hunting licenses."( Credit FOX13).The Utah Division of wildlife resources still wants to increase DWR Fees by a large 10% next year! Also what happened to all the big revenue collected the last two years?" Utah Division of Wildlife Resources spokesperson Faith Heaton Jolley said last year's total resulted in a little more than \$24 million in revenues."(credit KSL)

At the same time as Utah big game populations decrease and Utah hunters increased. So really what's next increase in Application Fees? So we will pay more money for hunting licenses/tags, have less odds of drawing tags and have less odds of filing tags? Please help explaining how this makes sense.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 14, 2022 12:14 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

"Right -sizing" fees is not a valid excuse to increase fees. If that were true we should be seeing "right sizing" that results in fee decreases. I don't see any efforts to decrease costs in this presentation which is a huge omission. All our recreational fees are increasing from parking at reservoirs to camp sites to day use fees. You can't keep increasing our use fees and on top of that increase the license fees. It is getting out of hand!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 14, 2022 9:31 pm

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

270. Has anyone compared our neighboring states? You either get a low quality hunt that still has decent bucks, for deer as an example, or you wait 5 to 10, even as residents for the quality hunts. Lets talk Nevada. I'm in a Nevada hunting group and some of the residents are going on year 7 of trying to get a tag. They've tried lower quality, higher quality, and everything in between. They can't draw a tag. They are paying 30 bucks for deer. That is already 15 dollars less than Utah and they are waiting much longer than I ever have actually applying for deer tags and not just points in Utah. Meanwhile my uncle out of state has a friend that applies for Nevada deer every year for 20 plus years and he still hasn't drawn. My uncle applies here in Utah he draws out about every 6 years. That tells you one of two things is true here in Utah. The hunting sucks and it's losing interest, or there are too many tags already and there is mismanagement with funds. When a non resident can apply in Utah and draw out every 5 or 6 years while our neighbors to the west make non residents wait 20 or more years, there is something very wrong. Now lets compare the states of the west and see where Utah stands.

Utah-

General Season- 400

LE- 400

Premium LE- 770

Nevada- 240

Montana- 1100 for elk/deer combo

Idaho- 351

Arizona- 315

New Mexico-

Standard- 280, equivalent of our general season

Quality- 370, our limited entry

High demand- 370, our premium LE

Colorado- 420

Wyoming- 370

One state, maybe two, is more expensive to hunt deer in the Rocky Mountains. ONE. What is the money being spent on? Utah is easily top three highest state for non residents to hunt in for deer and you want to almost double it? What about residents? Why should we be getting punished for this? Lets look at these same states for deer.

Once Utah passes this increase we'll be paying 50 for general season and if the 18% stays true for the others it'll be 95 for LE and 200 for premium LE. Utah's residents will be paying 80 dollars less than we would if we went to NM for deer. Their hunting license is 65 bucks too. So for 350 bucks we can hunt NM at just 110 dollars more.

Nevada- 30

Montana- 16

Idaho- 25

Arizona- 58

NM- 41 across the board

Colorado- 40

Wyoming- 42

When this is passed we'll be the second highest in the west. Even before it passes, we were the highest when it came to on average. Here is how the last two hunts in the coveted southern region went for a resident and non resident over the last five years. The last time my uncle was here in Utah hunting deer, he saw about 5 four points a day. This was five years ago. I drew that unit last year and we saw over 300 deer before we saw our first illegal spike. After 320 deer we saw my buck, a dinky 2 point. The early hunt also didn't have any bucks. The locals had no clue where the bucks were either.

So the hunting is apparently going down hill and you're going to jack up the prices to cover inflation costs? Utah is already the most expensive state in the Rockies to hunt for anyone and the hunting is already getting worse. We are probably rivaling Washington on most expensive state to hunt with worst quality hunting. Washington is 150 bucks for just the application fee for nonresidents and their tags are more expensive than Utah. At least there is that?

What needs to happen is change things up with non residents. Wyoming forces you to buy a point separate of your application. Deer is 41 bucks for me to buy a point. Utah it is 15 bucks, non resident. If Utah followed their lead and charged the 15 dollar app fee and 50 bucks for a point, the state is now making 65 dollars for every non resident that wants a point. If you truly don't think there is anything wrong with the state's deer management, then prove it and start nailing people on extra fees like Wyoming does. I wouldn't like it, but you could even add in a resident point purchase option of 10 bucks. That way you're getting 20 from residents. People will buy it, just like you know they will continue to buy these permits with these increases. However I bet they won't have the same complaints buying a point than seeing the tag increase.

You'd be making more money too if you think about it. If you demanded non residents pay 65 for the app/point then that is a 333% percent increase. 74,000 tags were sold for deer and almost 121,000 people applied for tags. that means 45,000 people were unlucky. With basic math for simplicity, 45,000 residents gave you 450,000 dollars in app fees. Non residents gave you 75,000 bucks. That is 525,000. If non-residents fork out 50 in addition to the the 15 that is 325,000. That is just app and point fees. If I am understanding the draw odds, that excludes those who just bought points. Add in another 145,000 thousand from residents and 1,040,000 from non residents. You want to budget for 5 million a year, there you go. In just application and point fees, you are making 1,960,000 from just apps and point fees. You can take it even further and make moose points 150, like Wyoming and that really makes your income skyrocket. lets say 1,000 non residents want to buy a moose point. That is 150,000. Since non-residents can apply and buy all species you could do something like

this for buying points. Moose- 200, bison-150, sheep- 200 per species, elk- 100, deer 50, goat- 150, and pronghorn 50. If a non resident wanted buy a point for all of those species, they won't I know, that is 1,100,000 dollars in your pocket from just point fees for 1,000 non residents. That excludes their 15 dollar app fee. By screwing non-residents over like this, I think two things are accomplished. The DWR is saying we are confident in our management tactics and believe our value is worth it to our non resident hunters, and you're getting the money you want without soaking your residents. That all excludes cheating your residents on an additional 10 dollars for a bonus point.

Ultimately, what is going on with the money? Utah, when averaged, is the most expensive state in the Rocky Mountains to hunt in. Other states have figured it out, so why is Utah the only one hurting?

But now to add in something completely unrelated, the deer are completely being mismanaged and it's certainly not the mountain lion's fault. In the glory of the all mighty dollar, this will never happen, but reducing the number of tags is the only way to get the herds back. I'm not talking about what happened this year. Reduce in one area and increase in others. That doesn't do anything. Reduce the number of tags overall. If you're truly concerned about over crowding, that is why the early hunts were created, then get rid of those tags. Dispersing does nothing. Also, if we are so concerned about our deer populations, get rid of these November to December hunts. Animals are using precious resources avoiding hunters when they should be conserving those limited resources. We aren't Michigan or Missouri where the deer numbers are so high they can sale tags over the counter. The DWR has constantly sent out memos for people to not spook deer and elk, or "harass" them in winter time because they "burn up valuable energy". So which is it? Are the deer and elk in Utah so vulnerable to human influences that spooking them or having dogs chase them in the winter hurts their numbers, or are they doing so strong that hunters chasing them in the winter months doesn't affect them? You can't have it both ways. Fortunately for the DWR, the state's populace is too stupid to understand this so you can get away with this "two-faced" claim. And what about this so-called drought that is being exploited? If the DWR is so concerned about this alleged drought, then tags really need to be decreased. Otherwise, the link on the hunting page is completely unnecessary.

But it boils down to this, you're going to increase them whether we like it or not so I wasted a lot of time showing that the state is mismanaging their funds badly.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 15, 2022 10:33 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to Administrative Rule R657-28?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommended changes?**

I think you should offer a summer senior fishing license for nonresident. The annual license fee of \$85. is a lot for a senior. A fee of \$30 for 90 days would attract a lot more people. Utah State University has many seniors for the summer in their Summer Citizen Program. I am sure this new fee structure would bring in more revenue for Utah.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

I feel that this makes sense, but unfortunately a lot of companies are lagging in compensating employees in accordance with inflation. That being said. I would really appreciate consideration for students or civic servants such as first responders and military. I am in medical school, which creates a large amount of debt. Myself and other students really appreciate consideration of our contribution to the state and society both financially and as we study to be better at serving students. I also was a volunteer EMT for years. I believe it would be of benefit to provide more affordable licenses and fees to first responders and students, but general raises of fees in other cases would be acceptable

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 16, 2022 9:41 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?**

The quality of hunting on public land is unfair. The increase should go directly to land owners that have hunting clubs where the deer/elk etc. walk out on an alfalfa fields for the premium hunts. I have to hunt public land and with covid people going out doors more pushes them animals to private land even more.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 16, 2022 12:59 pm

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 17, 2022 1:15 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to Administrative Rule R657-28?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?** I'm for raising fees even higher. I enjoy elk and deer hunting when I can and would pay double the present fees for both. This will give you more funds to manage and help both elk and deer herds across the state. Please don't pay attention to the people that aren't civil. I apologize to you for having to deal with that type of person.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 18, 2022 7:00 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the recommended changes to**  
**Administrative Rule R657-28?**

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**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 18, 2022 10:10 pm

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 20, 2022 12:10 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to Administrative Rule R657-28?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed DWR fees?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these proposed fees?** STOP favoring SWF in contracts like the expo. DWR would have made millions more if rocky mountain elk foundation was chosen since they offered 100% of the money go to dwr instead of SWF's pathetic 30%. DWR will forever have a bad/corrupt reputation until they TRUELY separate themselves from SWF influences.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

July/August 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
July 21, 2022 3:35 pm

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed DWR fees?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments  
about these proposed fees?**

You get what you deserve. The dwr would have millions more if it chose RMEF to run the expo.

I would have supported the increase if the dwr wasn't influenced by swf in that decision and all others.

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